

Storm Water Management Program Information

The City of Harrisonburg Storm Water Management Program is a citywide effort to protect our watershed, through public education and participation. It is the result of recent United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Phase Two Storm Water Regulations and the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulation. This permit requires "urbanized areas" (defined by the United States Census Bureau) to develop and implement a storm water management plan focused at preventing pollution and protecting our watersheds.



CITY OF HARRISONBURG

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Storm Water Management Program

Program Objectives

The Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) is focused at the following six minimum control measures:

1. Public education and outreach on storm water impacts
2. Public involvement / participation
3. Illicit discharge detection and elimination
4. Construction site storm water runoff control
5. Post-construction storm water management in new development and redevelopment, and
6. Pollution prevention / good housekeeping for municipal operations

Program Future

The success of the storm water management program is very dependent on public education and citizen and business participation. Volunteer opportunities and citizen input meetings will be scheduled and advertised on our new City of Harrisonburg Storm Water Management Program web-page:

www.ci.harrisonburg.va.us/stormwater

Keep your eyes open for news and updates regarding this exciting new city program.

Together as a community, we can make a difference and protect our water resources!!

Storm Water Facts

- Nearly 97% of the world's water is salty or otherwise undrinkable. Another 2% is locked in ice caps and glaciers. That leaves just 1% for all of humanity's needs, including agricultural, manufacturing, community, and personal household needs.
- The United States uses some 450 billion gallons of water everyday—or 1,600 gallons per person.
- The average household uses 350 gallons of water per day, or 127,400 gallons per year.
- Storm Drains do NOT remove any pollutants but were designed for the specific purpose of draining water from sidewalks and streets.
- Surface runoff can have detrimental effects on underwater plants and aquatic animals, including habitat destruction and species loss.
- Storm water runoff can carry large amounts of harmful pollutants into our drinking water resources, waterways, beaches and personal property.

Simple Steps to Prevent Storm Water Pollution

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up drive-ways, sidewalks and roads.
- Watch for soil erosion around your home, and re-vegetate or mulch disturbed areas as soon as possible.
- Direct roof drains away from paved surfaces and bare soil.
- Investigate storm water management products such as rain barrels.
- Minimize pesticide use and learn more about Integrated Pest Management.

Many pollution prevention measures not only protect the environment but could also save you precious time and money!



For More Information:

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